

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Novel compositions capable of inhibiting the degradation of extracellular matrices of warm-blooded animals, including humans, and promoting the production of proteins thereof, combine at least one metalloproteinase inhibitor, which may be a matrix metalloproteinase inhibitor, and at least one peptide copper complex. Also disclosed are methods that utilize the disclosed compositions, by administering to warm-blooded animals effective amounts thereof orally, parenterally, or topically, for treating arthritis and other inflammatory conditions, enhancing wound and bone healing, treating skin diseases, treating cosmetic defects of the skin, or stimulating hair growth.

C:\480048.458 \424019_1.DOC